First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

July 3, 2022
10:00 am

“Surprising Prophets”
4th Sunday after Pentecost

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"Come, God, Ceator, Be Our Shield", Marion Meyer

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.
- **Today--the first Sunday in July--we celebrate the birthdays of folks in our faith community born in the month of July by singing "Happy Birthday."**

ANNOUNCEMENTS **JEANETTE SHERRILL**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Zoom Host, Worship Leader and Greeter is Jeanette Sherrill.
  - The Greeter will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - **This is the first Sunday of the month; we will be sharing communion during this service.**
  - **Please gather your own elements. Creativity is a blessing.**
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Welcome into This Place"
40 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP **JEANETTE SHERRILL**

Leader: At night, when our cries for help echo off our walls, you hear us;

People: You turn our tears into rivers of joy, Listener of our hearts.

Leader: Each day, as our fears push us closer to the edge of loneliness;

People: You tug us back into the safety of your grace, Servant of the suffering.

Leader: Every time we stumble over our efforts to be perfect;

People: You pull us to our feet to learn new dance steps of hope,
Peace of our souls.

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"I a Song of the Saints of God"
295 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **2 Kings 5:1-14** **JEANETTE SHERRILL**

SECOND READING **Galatians 6:1-10** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Bring Many Names"
11 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Surprising Prophets"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording (button with two vertical lines)

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Resume Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison) *Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

Loving Creator, we honor you and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the past.
Give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"I've Got Peace Like a River"** Traditional **JOSHUA CATANIA**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v.2 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **JEANETTE SHERRILL**

In the offering of our gifts, as well as the living of our days,
may we not grow weary of doing what is right,
but commit to speaking up for the voiceless,
healing the broken, feeding the hungry,
and all those mercies which are such a part of your heart and hopes
for all your children.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"We Are People on a Journey"
340 NCH

COMMUNION SERVICE **PASTOR LIZ**

No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Christ's table!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **PASTOR LIZ**

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies"
594 NCH

BENEDICTION **PASTOR LIZ**

And now, as you go from this place, may the God who hears be ever-present to you, continuing to breathe a breath of hope into your broken places so that healing and hope might flow through you and into the world. Go in peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE **"Softly and Tenderly",** Will Thompson **JOSHUA CATANIA**

PASSING THE PEACE *Stop Zoom Recording (square button) **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director

Joshua Catania, Guest Accompanist
Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern
Jeanette Sherrill, Worship Leader/Greeter
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer
Covid Health Advisor, Patty Sherwood

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Photo by Gary Bendig on Unsplash
- **Call to Worship and Prayer of Dedication:** By Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies.
- **Benediction:** From Leader, Summer 2014. Copyright 2014 MennoMedia, CommonWord.ca.
- **Disciples Prayer:** Based on Matthew 6:9-13, theworshipwell.org.
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Next Week: **Ivan Harner, Zoom Host/Worship Leader.**

May 29 – September 11: Sunday worship will be on Zoom-only.

Summertime Gatherings: First Congregational will be meeting 5 Sundays during the summer for food and fellowship. We already met June 26 for lunch at Harvest Moon Café! There are four remaining summer fellowship days:

July 10
July 31
August 14
August 28

Further details about these dates to follow. If you are interested in hosting, please email Jenn at jezibbell@live.com.
Hosting includes inviting church members to your home and providing a dish. The meal will be potluck style, so the sooner you let Jenn know, the better. Once we have a host scheduled, Jenn will send out a Signup Genius or Google form with a list of items needed for the meal.

Rev LeAnn Seito will be preaching July 24 and Jenn Zibbell will preach July 31.
Thank you to LeAnn and Jenn for sharing their faith and creativity.

Beginning Monday, Oct 3 at 7:00 pm Zoom: Weekly gathering for our community of faith to complete the work of "Purpose = Identity + Context + Values" from Susan Beaumont's *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading in a Liminal Season*:

- Thanks to all who completed the Google Survey on day/time availability.
- A majority of folks (11 total) indicated they could be available on Mondays at 7:00 pm.
- In order to address the concerns raised by almost half the responders about absences due to summer family and travel commitments, these discernment gatherings will begin on **Monday, Oct 3**
- Please use the more relaxed summertime to allow the ideas in Susan Beaumont's book to percolate while continuing to pray that we may recognize and respond to the ministry and missions God's Spirit is calling YFC UCC to next.

Sunday, August 10: Traverse City New Church Start New Waves UCC Zoom: The New Waves worshiping community has been invited to attend our 10:00 am YFC UCC Zoom worship Service. After worship, beginning at 12:00 noon, Pastor Liz will be leading a special Zoom service recognizing Rev. Jody Betten for her numerous contributions and

dedicated service as founding pastor. Before accepting a call to YFC UCC, Pastor Liz served as a part of the original New Waves UCC new church plant team. As we listen for the Spirit to speak to our YFC UCC faith community during this season of discernment, all are invited to attend the 12:00 noon Zoom to learn how the values of risk taking, experimentation, innovation and creativity (including a partnership with Habitat for Humanity) are woven throughout Rev. Betten's and New Waves UCC's ministry approach.

Sunday, September 25 is our Neighborhood and Community Pet Blessing Ceremony. Jenn Zibbell, MID, is Team Lead for this special event. Look for more from Jenn as to how you can participate in preparations.

We welcome the Rev Dr Lillian Daniel: Rev Daniel officially began her ministry as Conference Minister of the Michigan Conference this week. We welcome Dr. Daniel among us and pray for our ministry together in the Michigan Conference. Pastor Liz serves as Vice President of the Michigan Conference. We remember reading, Rev Daniel's book *When Spiritual but Not Religious Is Not Enough* , our 1st book study last fall,

From the Officers of the United Church of Christ-

***The national officers of the United Church of Christ are speaking out against the U.S. Supreme Court decision elim,inating, after almost 50 years, the constitutional right to an abortion* 'We will stand with you in protest': National officers speak out after SC overturns Roe v. Wade**

by **UCC Leadership** | published on Jun 24, 2022

Long before the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade, the United Church of Christ, by action of the General Synod, affirmed the right of every individual to follow their personal religious and moral convictions regarding their reproductive healthcare. We continue to stand by this conviction today. This religious and moral agency includes the autonomy of birthing people to decide whether to complete or terminate a pregnancy.

Our Synod resolutions, which represent the will of the church in light of scripture, highlight the importance of ensuring access to the full range of reproductive health care regardless of race, religion, or economic status. We do not take this stand in spite of faith, but rather because of it. Throughout sacred text humankind is tasked with care of self and others. Bodily autonomy is a human right given by God.

Today's Supreme Court decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, discarding nearly 50 years of precedent, will endanger the lives and well-being of birthing people who do not choose to continue pregnancy. God loves and cares for people who have abortions, and so does the United Church of Christ. We believe all people have the right to make their own decisions about their bodies and medical treatment. We believe women have an inalienable right to shape the direction of their lives as they see fit, and no institution established by humankind should supersede such freedom.

The Supreme Court's decision to vacate Roe v. Wade and return the protection of a woman's human right to states represents a continual effort to oppress women and people who can give birth. Such uniform repression targeted at one specific class of people, namely those who have a uterus, creates yet another stark division in a country that so desperately needs unity. In addition to gender bias, such a rendering also disproportionately effects birthing people of color and women

in rural or low-income areas who face challenges in access to safe and medically supervised reproductive health care, including abortions. The gravity of this decision and the devastation of its impact cannot be overstated.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God offers these words of comfort to the Israelites during a challenging time: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10) These are not words that assuage us with easy answers and shallow promises. There is no declaration that things will be better tomorrow. They will not be. But they do promise that we are not alone in our struggles.

We, the officers of the United Church of Christ, want those feeling the pain of today’s decision to know that you are not alone. God has not abandoned you and neither will we. We will do what we always do when the law loses its love. We will grieve with you and offer space for lament and mourning. We will work with you until the rights of every person are honored in this land. We will stand with you in protest. We will kneel with you in prayer. And we will maintain our commitment to educate people about abortion access and safe medically supported reproductive healthcare. Now and always, we remain firm in the knowledge that all are beloved of God, and this cause is right and holy.

The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President

The Rev. Traci Blackmon
The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson
Associate General Ministers

OUR CHURCH’S MISSIONS

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center’s ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, “That They All Shall Be One”, Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center’s student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

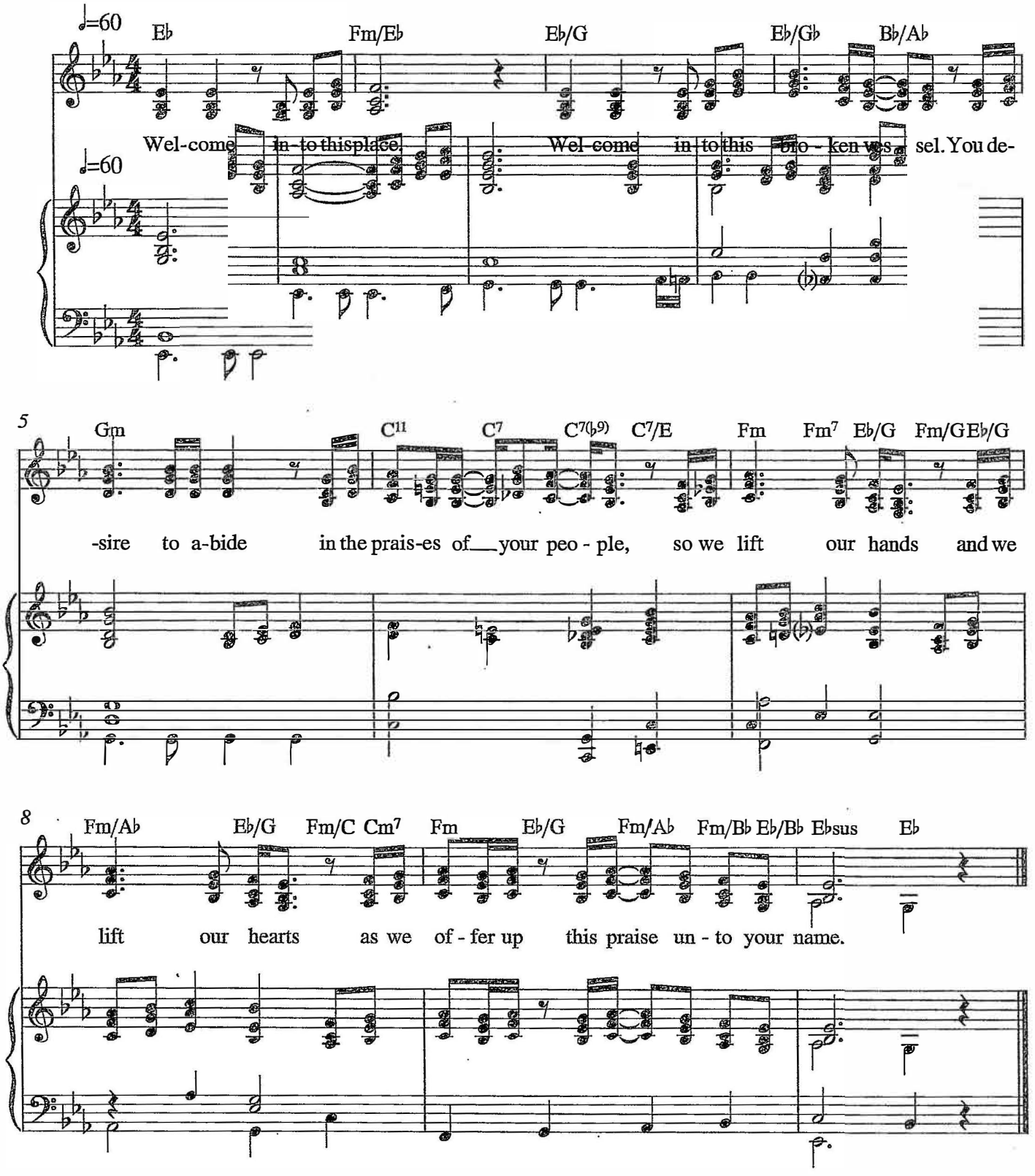
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

Welcome into This Place

Words and Music: Orlando Juarez
Music arrangement: Jimmie Abbington and Darryl Glenn Nettles
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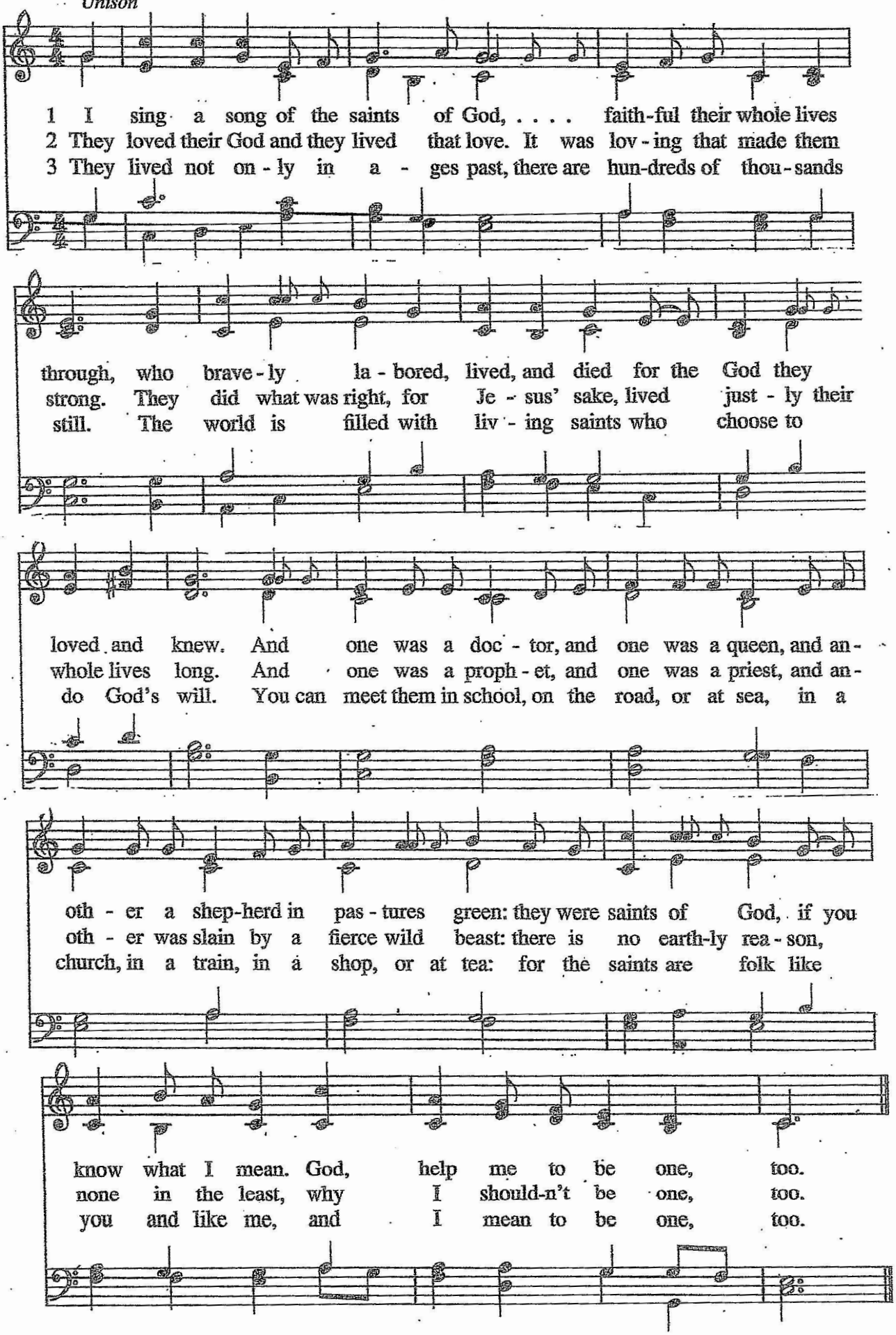
295 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Lesbia Scott, 1929; alt.

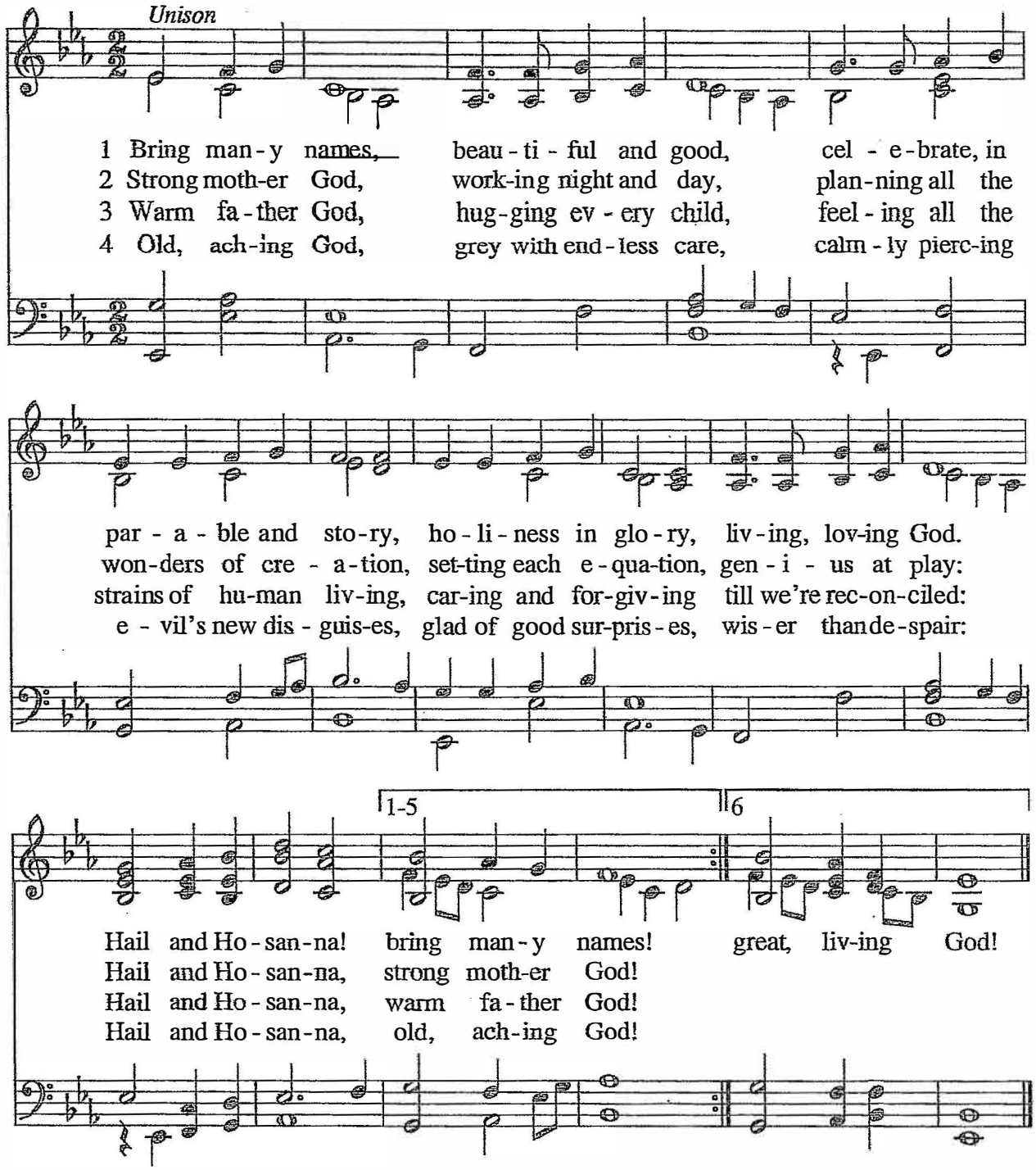
Unison


1 I sing a song of the saints of God, ... faith-ful their whole lives
through, who brave-ly la-bored, lived, and died for the God they
loved and knew. And one was a doc-tor, and one was a queen, and an-
oth-er a shep-herd in pas-tures green: they were saints of God, if you
know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.
2 They loved their God and they lived that love. It was lov-ing that made them
strong. They did what was right, for Je-sus' sake, lived just-ly their
whole lives long. And one was a proph-et, and one was a priest, and an-
oth-er was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earth-ly rea-son,
none in the least, why I should-n't be one, too.
3 They lived not on-ly in a-ges past, there are hun-dreds of thou-sands
still. The world is filled with liv-ing saints who choose to
do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a
church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like
you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

Bring Many Names

Brian Wren, 1989

Gen. 1:27


Unison
1 Bring man-y names, beau-ti-ful and good, cel-e-brate, in
2 Strong moth-er God, work-ing night and day, plan-ning all the
3 Warm fa-ther God, hug-ging ev-ery child, feel-ing all the
4 Old, ach-ing God, grey with end-less care, calm-ly pierc-ing
par-a-ble and sto-ry, ho-li-ness in glo-ry, liv-ing, lov-ing God.
won-ders of cre-a-tion, set-ting each e-qua-tion, gen-i-us at play:
strains of hu-man liv-ing, car-ing and for-giv-ing till we're rec-on-ciled:
e-vil's new dis-guis-es, glad of good sur-pris-es, wis-er than de-spair:
1-5
6
Hail and Ho-san-na! bring man-y names! great, liv-ing God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, strong moth-er God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, warm fa-ther God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, old, ach-ing God!

5 Young, grow-ing God, ea-ger,
on the move,
say-ing no to false-hood and
un-kind-ness,
cry-ing out for jus-tice,
giv-ing all you have:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
young, grow-ing God!

6 Great, liv-ing God, nev-er ful-ly known,
joy-ful dark-ness far be-yond our see-ing,
clos-er yet than breath-ing,
ev-er-last-ing home:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
great, liv-ing God!

The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune Westchase *was composed especially for this text.*

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
Carlton Young, 1989

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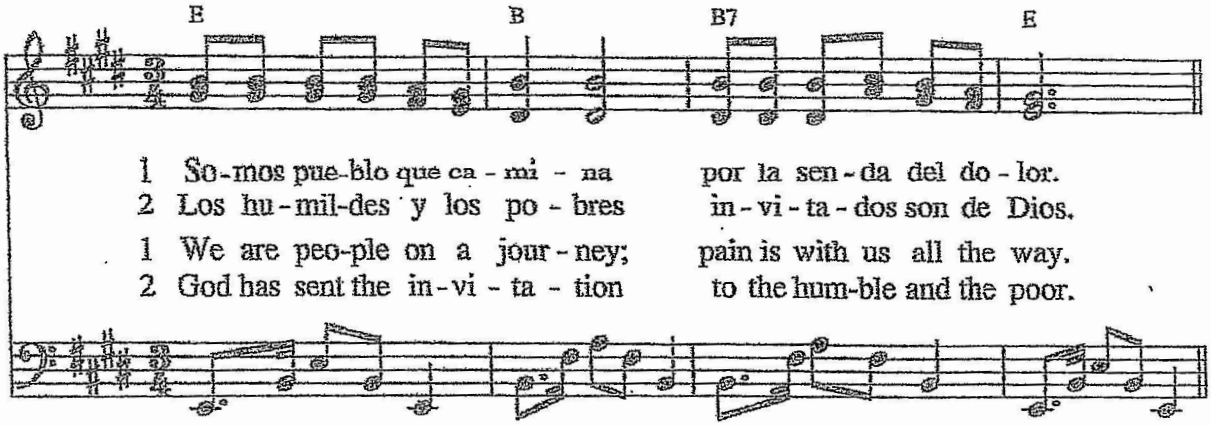
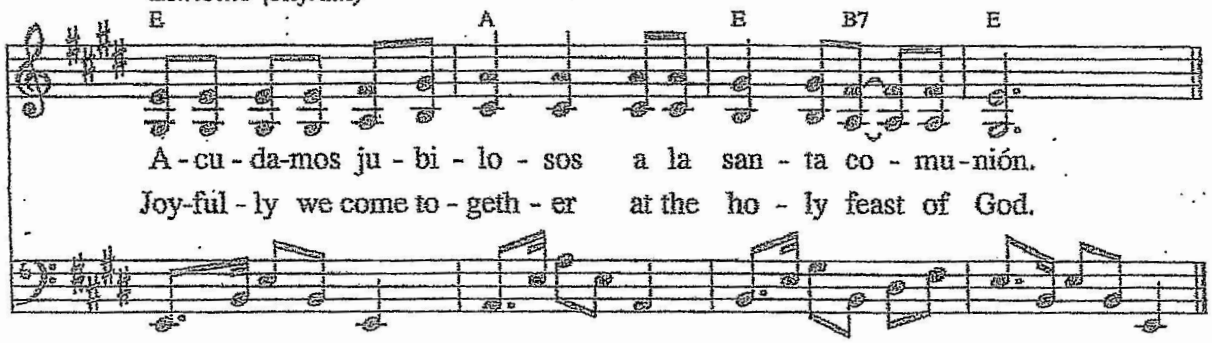
Somos pueblo que camina
(We Are People on a Journey)

340

"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century; alt.
English version, Carolyn Jennings, 1993

John 6:32–35

E
B
B7
E
1 So-mos pue-blo que ca-mi-na por la sen-da del do-lor.
2 Los hu-mil-des y los po-bres in-vi-ta-dos son de Dios.
1 We are peo-ple on a jour-ney; pain is with us all the way.
2 God has sent the in-vi-ta-tion to the hum-ble and the poor.

Estribillo (Refrain)



3 Es-te pan que Dios nos brin-da
a-li-men-ta nues-tra u-nión. *(Estribillo)*

3 This is bread that God pro-vides us,
nour-ish-ing our u-ni-ty. *(Refrain)*

4 Cris-to a-quí se ha-ce pre-sen-te;
al reu-nir-nos es su a-mor. *(Estribillo)*

4 Christ is ev-er pres-ent with us
to u-nite us all in love. *(Refrain)*

5 Los se-dien-tos de jus-ti-cia
bus-can su li-be-ra-ción. *(Estribillo)*

5 All who tru-ly thirst for jus-tice
seek their lib-er-a-tion here. *(Refrain)*

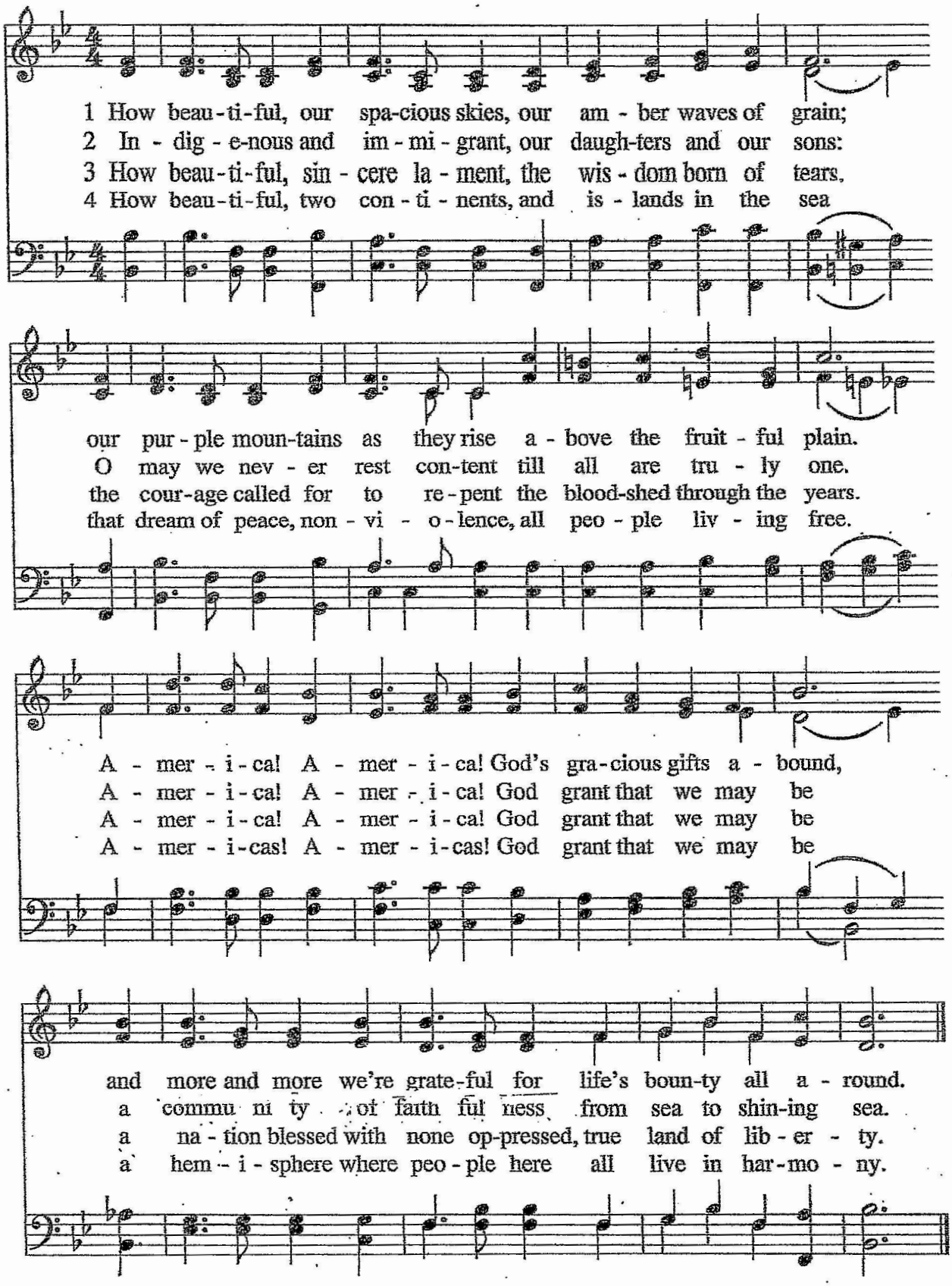
The "Misa Popular Nicaragüense," in which this hymn appeared, was composed for the Eucharist liturgy by members of the "comunidades de base"—a group of laypersons who organized to deal with issues in the Latin American church and community.

Tune: SOMOS PUEBLO 8.7. with refrain (8.7.)
"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century

This tune, entitled SOMOS PUEBLO here, was written to accompany the opening song in the *Misa Popular Nicaragüense*, a contemporary setting of the Roman Catholic mass in Nicaragua. It was well received, and its popularity spread to other Latin American nations and churches.

The music for *Misa Popular Nicaragüense* was composed by Manuelito Dávila, Angel Cerpas, and Juan Mendoza. The composers incorporated Nicaraguan folk rhythms in the settings of various components of the mass.

594 How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies

St. 1, Katharine Lee Bates, 1893; alt.
St. 2, 3, 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 How beau-ti-ful, our spa-cious skies, our am - ber waves of grain;
2 In - dig - e-nous and im - mi - grant, our daugh-ters and our sons:
3 How beau-ti-ful, sin - cere la - ment, the wis - dom born of tears.
4 How beau-ti-ful, two con - ti - nents, and is - lands in the sea
our pur - ple moun-tains as they rise a - bove the fruit - ful plain.
O may we nev - er rest con-tent till all are tru - ly one.
the cour-age called for to re - pent the blood-shed through the years.
that dream of peace, non - vi - o - lence, all peo - ple liv - ing free.
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God's gra - cious gifts a - bound,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God grant that we may be
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God grant that we may be
A - mer - i - cas! A - mer - i - cas! God grant that we may be
and more and more we're grate-ful for life's boun-ty all a - round.
a commu ni ty of faith ful ness from sea to shin-ing sea.
a na - tion blessed with none op-pressed, true land of lib - er - ty.
a hem - i - sphere where peo - ple here all live in har - mo - ny.

On her first trip west in the summer of 1893 the distinguished New England educator Katharine Lee Bates was inspired to write "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies." One hundred years later Miriam Therese Winter wrote new stanzas to clearly include all of the Americas.

Tune: MATERNA C.M.D.
Samuel A. Ward, 1882